

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-8 (canceled)
- 9. (Previously presented) An actuation device for a cooking appliance, comprising:
  - at least two cooking points;
  - at least one actuation element having a plurality of actuation modes at least for selection of said cooking points, for adjustment of a heating step, for activation and deactivation of said selected cooking point and at least one additional actuation mode; and
  - a sensor unit associated with said actuation element for sensing said plurality of actuation modes and said additional actuation mode of said actuation element.
- 10. (Previously presented) The actuation device according to claim 9, including said actuation element being moved in a predetermined direction to actuate said additional actuation mode and said sensor unit sensing said additional actuation mode.
- 11. (Previously presented) The actuation device according to claim 10, including said sensor unit sensing said actuation element being moved in a direction toward the front of the cooking appliance.

12. (Previously presented) The actuation device according to claim 9, including said actuation element having a pushbutton incorporated therein for actuating an additional mode.
13. (Previously presented) The actuation device according to claim 9, including said actuation element formed by a toggle switch having a gripping area with a diameter substantially in the range of between 0.8 centimeters and 1.2 centimeters.
14. (Previously presented) The actuation device according to claim 9, including said actuation element having a telescopic section incorporated therein.
15. (Previously presented) The actuation device according to claim 9, including said actuation element mounted on a cooking surface of the cooking appliance and said actuation element extends less than about two and one-half (2.5) centimeters over said cooking surface in at least one actuation mode.
16. (Previously presented) A cooking appliance, comprising:
  - at least two cooking points;
  - an actuation device for actuating at least said cooking points;
  - said actuation device including at least one actuation element having a plurality of actuation modes at least for selection of said cooking points, for adjustment of a heating step, for activation and deactivation of said selected cooking point and at least one additional actuation mode; and

a sensor unit associated with said actuation element for sensing said plurality of actuation modes and said additional actuation mode of said actuation element.

17. (Previously presented) The cooking appliance according to claim 16, including said actuation element mounted on a cooking surface of the cooking appliance and said actuation element extends less than about two and one-half (2.5) centimeters over said cooking surface in at least one actuation mode.
18. (Previously presented) The cooking appliance according to claim 16, including said actuation element being moved in a predetermined direction to actuate said additional actuation mode and said sensor unit sensing said additional actuation mode.
19. (Previously presented) The cooking appliance according to claim 18, including said sensor unit sensing said actuation element being moved in a direction toward the front of the cooking appliance.
20. (Previously presented) The cooking appliance according to claim 16, including said actuation element having a pushbutton incorporated therein for actuating an additional mode.
21. (Previously presented) The cooking appliance according to claim 16, including said actuation element formed by a toggle switch having a gripping area with a diameter substantially in the range of between 0.8 centimeters and 1.2 centimeters.

22. (Previously presented) The cooking appliance according to claim 16, including said actuation element having a telescopic section incorporated therein.
23. (New) An actuation device for a cooking appliance, comprising:
  - at least two cooking points;
  - at least one actuation element having a plurality of actuation modes at least for selection of said cooking points, for adjustment of a heating step, for activation and deactivation of said selected cooking point and at least one additional actuation mode, said actuation element being movable, with respect to a selected cooking point; in a movement along a prescribed movement path so as to effect adjustment, activation, and deactivation of the selected cooking point and said actuation element being movable, with respect to the selected cooking point, in a movement along a predetermined additional actuation mode path to effect said at least one additional actuation mode with said predetermined additional actuation mode path along which said actuation element is moved to effect said at least one additional actuation mode being a different path of movement than said prescribed movement path along which said actuation element is moved so as to effect adjustment, activation, and deactivation of the selected cooking point; and
  - a sensor unit associated with said actuation element for sensing said plurality of actuation modes and said additional actuation mode of said actuation element, said sensor unit being operable to sense movement of said actuation element along said prescribed movement path and being

operable to sense movement of said actuation element along said predetermined additional actuation mode path.

24. (New) The cooking appliance according to claim 23, including said sensor unit sensing said actuation element being moved in a direction toward the front of the cooking appliance when said actuation element is moved, with respect to a selected cooking point, in a movement along said prescribed movement path.
25. (New) The cooking appliance according to claim 23, including said actuation element having a pushbutton incorporated therein for actuating an additional actuation mode.
26. (New) The cooking appliance according to claim 23, including said pushbutton is movable along an axis extending through said actuation element, whereupon the path of movement of said pushbutton along the axis extending through said actuation element is said predetermined additional actuation mode path to effect said at least one additional actuation mode and said actuation element is tiltable relatively around an axis perpendicular to the axis extending through said actuation element, whereupon said actuation element is tiltable along said prescribed path of movement to thereby effect adjustment, activation, and deactivation of the selected cooking point incorporated therein for actuating an additional actuation mode.